

Department of Commerce (Commerce)

The statutory appropriations in Commerce are primarily for various economic development activities.

State Special Revenue

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) – The legislature has authorized the Department of Natural Resources a state special revenue statutory appropriation from the fire suppression account. The following figure shows fire suppression expenditures in FY 2014, along with anticipated sources of funding.

FY 2014 (as of June 30, 2014) Fire Suppression Costs and Funding Actual and Projected	
<u>All costs</u>	
State responsibility	\$11,619,844
Other's responsibility	8,038,987
Subtotal	\$19,658,831
<u>Funding for State Responsibility</u>	
Fire Suppression Account	\$11,619,844

Fire fund revenues come from three sources:

- Any unencumbered and unexpended funds from the Governor's emergency statutory appropriation at the end of the biennium
- Any unencumbered and unexpended general fund reversions in excess of 0.5% of total general fund appropriations each fiscal year as long as no reductions are required as provided in MCA 17-7-140
- Any corporate license tax collected in excess of the revenue estimate each fiscal year through FY 2015

As of the writing of this report, additional revenues are expected to be deposited to the fund in FY 2015. The following shows the fund balance for the fire suppression fund as of FYE 2014. If fire costs in FY 2015 are near the seven year average (with high and low costs removed) of \$19.7 million or the five year average (with high and low costs removed) of \$11.3 million, the projected FY 2014 ending fund balance of ~~\$30.9~~ ^{34.5} million would be adequate to cover those costs until additional revenue is received.

OTHER GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

The following figure shows the budgeted and expended amounts for FY 2014. Many of the other appropriations have specific spending schedules, and many are biennial and could be spent in the second year of the biennium. If an appropriation was not The budgeted amounts changed slightly for most sections of government, generally due to workers compensation reductions and/or carried forward amounts. More specific information, including the most significant

Fire Suppression Account FY 2014 + FY15 transfer	
Fund Balance	
Beginning Fund Balance:	\$123,803
<u>Revenue:</u>	
Charges for services	\$21,077
BOI investments	\$63,130
General fund transfers (FY 14)	\$51,691,404
General fund transfers (FY 15*)	\$3,653,421
	\$55,429,032
<u>Expenditures:</u>	
Fire suppression and prevention:	\$11,619,844
Other purposes allowed by law**	\$9,388,662
Total:	\$21,008,506
<u>Ending Fund Balance:</u>	<u>\$34,544,329</u>
* Revenues are from general fund reversions in FY 14	
** fuel reduction, forest restoration, fire equipment	